

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2619

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0216

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DEPT ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: COMMENTS ON MEETING JULY 7 (SALT TWO-660)

1. AT TODAY'S MEETING I MADE STATEMENT REITERATING OUR POSITION ON BACKFIRE AND REITERATING OUR POSITION ON CRUISE MISSILES NOT BEING INCLUDED IN VLADIVOSTOK ACCORD. I OUTLINED DISTINCTION BETWEEN ASMBs AND ALCMS, RELATING IT TO PENETRATION CAPABILITY OF BOMBERS WHICH FACE AIR DEFENSES THAT ARE NOT LIMITED BY TREATY. I CLOSED THIS PORTION BY SAYING THAT "IF ALCMS ARE TO BE DEALT WITH IN A NEW AGREEMENT THEY MUST BE DEALT WITH ON A BASIS DIFFERENT THAN ASBMS."

2. SEMENOV'S STATEMENT "REAFFIRMED" THEIR POSITION ON MIRV VERIFICATIONS BUT, STATING THAT THEY ACCEPTED OUR POSITION THAT ARTICLE ON SCC IN NEW AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SELF-CONTAINED, HE SUBMITTED DRAFT WHICH HE PROPOSED BE REFERRED TO DRAFTING GROUP. HE ALSO NEEDLED US FOR A REPLY ON THEIR PROPOSALS FOR BANNED SYSTEMS.

3. IN OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION I SAID THAT MIRV VERIFICATION ISSUE WAS ESSENTIALLY VERY SIMPLE QUESTION OF HOW WE COULD

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DISTINGUISH BY OUR OWN NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS BETWEEN MIRVED

AND UNMIRVED MISSILES WHEN A PARTICULAR TYPE HAD BEEN TESTED IN BOTH MODES AND LAUNCHERS WERE NOT DISTINGUISHABLE. I SAID HOW COULD WE ANSWER THIS QUESTION WHICH WOULD OF COURSE NOT ONLY BE PUT TO US BY OUR CONGRESS, BUT WE ALSO HAD TO PUT TO OURSELVES. IN RESPONSE, HE SAID THAT THIS WAS ALSO QUESTION WHICH WAS ASKED BY "DEPUTIES IN THE SUPREME SOVIET" BECAUSE, AS HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SAID TO ME, THERE WAS SIMILAR PROBLEM ON SOVIET SIDE WITH RESPECT TO US DEPLOYMENTS. WHEN HE EXPANDED ON THIS THEME, I POINTED OUT THAT THEIR CONSISTENT POSITION, AS I UNDERSTOOD IT, HAD BEEN THAT THERE WAS NO PROBLEM ON SOVIET SIDE. I SAID THAT IF HE WAS NOW TAKING POSITION THAT THERE WAS PROBLEM, IF HE WOULD OUTLINE TO ME NATURE OF THEIR PROBLEM IN THE SAME WAY AS I HAD OUTLINED TO HIM NATURE OF US PROBLEM, WE COULD PERHAPS FIND WAY OF APPROACHING QUESTION FROM STANDPOINT OF THERE BEING A MUTUAL PROBLEM. HE BACKED WATER FAST AT THIS POINT AND SAID THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO ADD TO WHAT HE HAD SAID IN HIS STATEMENT AT PLENARY TODAY. I AGAIN EXPRESSED REGRET THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN POSSIBLE FOR US TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS ON THIS FUNDAMENTAL MATTER PRIOR TO MEETING OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO.

4. WE HAD LONG AND ENTIRELY INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION ON CRUISE MISSILE ISSUE, WITH SEMENOV REITERATING THEIR POSITION ON CRUISE MISSILES BEING INCLUDED IN ASM CLAUSE OF AIDE-MEMOIRE AND MY REITERATING POSITION THAT IF CRUISE MISSILES WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN NEW AGREEMENT LIMITS WOULD HAVE TO BE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE FOR ASBMS SET FORTH IN AIDE-MEMOIRE.

5. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 9.

6. THERE WILL BE NO HIGHLIGHTS CABLE THIS MEETING.
JOHNSON

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NNN

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